

PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

18321 FOREST ROAD LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24502

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May 14, 2004

Ellen L. Weintraub, Chair Attn: Kimberley Hart, Esq. Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20463

RE: MUR 5396

America Direct, Inc.

Dear Ms. Weintraub:

Confidential

FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

This firm has been retained to represent America Direct, Inc., (hereinafter referred to as "ADI") in the above referenced matter. Enclosed please find an affidavit from Randy L. Spradlin, President of ADI, prepared in response to your letter and enclosures dated December 10, 2003.

Once you have had the benefit of more information regarding the usual business practices of ADI, I am sure you will realize that its conduct in this matter is indistinguishable from its ordinary non-political business practices. More importantly, these business methods are used by ADI in all of its business activities, for both political and non-political clients. ADI's conduct in this matter follows exactly the pattern, which it uses in all of its business activities.

Unfortunately, the Commission cannot be expected to be familiar with all of the complex commercial details and strategic business planning of this highly competitive business. We believe that the inferences the Commission has drawn from a review of the invoice and payment dates does not support the conclusions asserted in your December 10 letter. We believe that it is clear that ADI has acted in a commercially reasonable way and that the collections received were in the ordinary course of ADI's routine commercial activity. ADI had no intention to make any "contribution" to this or any other political candidate client.

Please refer specifically to Exhibit B to the Spradlin Affidavit. ADI will gladly provide additional examples, if further evidence is needed.

ADI does not believe that the assertions of fact or conclusions of law stated are correct. The Commission's recitation of ADI's conduct is substantially different than ADI's actual management of the Bauer for President 2000, Inc. account. ADI did not in any regard violate the provisions of any applicable federal election regulations.



ADI specifically reserves its rights to confidentiality of these proceedings in this matter as provided by statute, and specifically declines to waive any aspect of its confidentiality rights in this matter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

E Patrick Yeatts

cc: America Direct, Inc.

AFFIDAVIT

In Re: MUR: 5396 Respondents: America Direct, Inc.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, BEDFORD COUNTY, to-wit:

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned Notary Public, Randy Spradlin, President of America Direct, Inc. ("ADI"), who, after being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

- 1) He is the President of ADI, a direct mail broker located in Forest, Virginia; and,
- 2) He is personally familiar with all aspects of ADI, including the direct mail services provided by ADI and various vendors to Bauer for President 2000, Inc. ("Committee"); and,
- 3) All work performed for the Committee was in ADI's ordinary course of business, and all was substantially similar to work performed for other political as well nonpolitical debtors; and,
- 4) The Lukens Company (formerly known as The Lukens Cook Company), a direct mail agency located in Arlington, VA, initially contacted America Direct, Inc. about performing work for the Committee; and,
- 5) America Direct, Inc. normally billed the Committee directly for work performed. However, there are several vendors of ADI that billed the Committee directly.
- Attached as Exhibit A is a list detailing the history of the Committee's payment history; and,
- 7) ADI normally directed its' billing and payment requests to the The Lukens Company, and would periodically follow up on payment with the principals of the Lukens Company. However, on several isolated occasions late in the campaign, the undersigned spoke directly with employees of the Committee about payments; and.
- 8) Attached as Exhibit B is a list of several clients of ADI, which details various invoiced amounts as well as the payment history of each client regarding the same; and,
- 9) As evidenced by Exhibit B, ADI often does not receive timely payments from its' clients (political and nonpolitical); and,
- 10) As evidenced by Exhibit B, the risk and size of the Committee's obligations were similar to the risk and size of various other nonpolitical clients of ADI during the same period of time; and,
- Although ADI's invoices indicate that payment is "due in 30 days", ADI typically is paid incrementally over time by political and nonpolitical clients alike; and,
- 12) ADI rarely, if ever, sends out subsequent invoices or demand letters so long as the client (political or nonpolitical) is continuing to service its' obligation. ADI will often call its' client to prompt the client to make more timely payments; and,
- 13) The action taken to collect the various obligations of ADI's nonpolitical clients, as set forth on Exhibit B, was identical to the action taken to collect the obligation of the Committee; and,

- ADI has not deviated from any of its' established procedures or practices in 14) dealing with the Committee; and,
- ADI believes that its' practices conform to the usual and normal practices in the 15) direct mail industry; and,
- The Committee currently owes ADI \$32,289.42, and has most recently made a 16) payment of \$3,600 in January of 2004 as evidenced by Exhibit A.

America Direct, Inc., Respondent

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of May 2004 by Randy L. Spradlin, President of America Direct, Inc.

Notary Public

My commission expires: 7/31/05

(SEAL)

11:47 AM 05/06/04 Accrual Basis

Sedwert. Name

Memo

Account

Class

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Amount

Balance

AMERICA DIRECT, INC. Find Report
All Transactions

Beneil Germent History

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EXHIBIT

11:47 AM 05/06/04 Accrual Basis

AMERICA DIRECT, INC. Find Report All Transactions

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AMERICA DIRECT, INC. A/R Aging Summary As of May 6, 2004

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13,382.22	13,382 22	1,911.37	1,870.32	761 18	748.22	479 66	448 31	1,242.51	375.00	915.40	1,932.21	1,294 76	1,403.28	TOTAL

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